

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ernest Kenney on 2/23/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

**In The Claims**

Please rewrite claim 21 as:

  -- 21. A method for stretching a weft thread after its insertion into a weaving shed of a weaving machine, for example an air-jet weaving machine, comprising clamping the weft thread by a clamping device under control of a control unit at a time at least approximately at the end of the insertion on the side of the shed opposite the insertion side and then tensioning the clamped weft thread by deflection of the weft thread at the side of the shed opposite the insertion side by a deflecting device located upstream of the clamping device until it is beaten up, including actuating the clamping and deflecting devices by separate actuators, said clamping device preventing an inserted weft thread from snapping back into the shed. - -.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BOBBY H. MUROMOTO JR whose telephone number is (571)272-4991. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-530, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Welch can be reached on 571-272-4996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert H Muromoto, Jr./  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3765